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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/805,969	03/15/2001	William Ender	ONS00230	3926

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EXAMINER

THAI, HANH B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2161	

DATE MAILED: 10/05/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/805,969

Applicant(s)

ENDER ET AL.

Examiner

Hanh B Thai

Art Unit

2171

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on RCE filed August 18, 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 11, 12 and 17-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 11-12 and 17-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) *
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

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This is in response to the Request for Continued Examination filed August 18, 2004.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-8, 11-12 and 17-21 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

1. Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

Regarding claim 1, "a centralized updating system" is not discussed in the specification. Specifically, the specification shows multiple updating of directories, for example the updating of directories 20 and 46.

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 4-7 and 17-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding claim 4, it is not clear to where "the second list of data objects" is provided.

Regarding claim 5, it is not clear how a first set of changes, a second set of changes and a third set of changes are related.

Regarding claim 17, claim recites the limitation "the updating system" in the second paragraph. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Marchoili et al. (U. S. patent no. 6,233,588) in view of Kahn et al. (U. S. Patent no. 6,401,079).

Regarding claim 1, Marchoili discloses an information management system organized to maintain an accurate representation of a list of data objects, comprising:

- a first system of record coupled to receive data objects wherein the data object include employee data (col. 5, lns. 42-47, Marchoili). Database 28 corresponds to the system of record;
- a centralized updating system (16, Fig.2, Marchoili) external to the first system of record and external to the coupled to receive the data objects from the first system of record and coupled to provide the data objects organized into a first list of data objects in a first format at predetermined intervals (col. 9, lns. 2-6)

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wherein the updating system includes a central directory (database 12, Fig.2) containing a first database (col.5, ln. 42 to col. 6, ln. 11, Marchoili).

- A security system external to the central directory, the security system containing a second database that includes a portion of the data of the data of the first database wherein the second database is updated from the first database at the predetermined intervals (col. 8, lns. 38-54, Marchoili). The regional server corresponds to the security system external to the central directory (database 12, Fig.2).

Marchoili, however, does not disclose the financial system of record receiving financial data. Kahn, on the other hand, discloses a centralized back-end service accesses to a central database or a system of record including financial data (see abstract; col.5, lns.18-23, Kahn). It would have been obvious to apply the financial system of Kahn into the system of Marchoili because it provides the flexibility and facilitate control data process (col. 6, lns. 24-31, Kahn).

Regarding claim 2, Marchoili/Kahn combination discloses a graphical interface coupled to provide a data input mechanism to the first system of record (col. 12, lns. 6-10, Kahn) and coupled to provide a data output mechanism from the first system of record; and a communication interface coupled to provide two-way communication between the first system of record and the centralized updating system (col. 13, ln. 58 to col. 14, ln. 1, Kahn).

Regarding claim 3, Marchoili/Kahn combination discloses the centralizing updating system comprises a file transfer mechanism coupled to transfer the first list of data objects and coupled to transfer the second list of data objects at the predetermined intervals (see col. 8, lines 1-7, Marchoili).

Regarding claim 4, Marchoili/Kahn combination discloses a first directory server (master server 16, Fig.2, Marchoili) coupled to receive the first list of data objects and coupled to provide the second list of data objects; and a second directory server (regional server 18, Fig. 2, Marchoili) coupled to receive the first list of data objects from the first directory server to maintain redundant sets of the first list of data objects (see col.5, line 64 to col. 6, line 2, Marchoili). Please note that maintaining database replication of records reads on the maintaining redundant sets of data object.

2. Claims 5-9 and 11-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Marchoili et al. (U. S. patent no. 6,233,588) in view of Man-Hak Tso (U. S. Patent no. 5,706,509) in further view of Kahn et al. (U. S. Patent no. 6,401,079).

Regarding claim 5, Marchoili discloses an information management system coupled to maintain synchronization (see col.7, line 50 to col. 8, line 7, Marchoili) of first data objects contained within a first storage area (database 16, Fig. 2, Marchoili) to second data objects contained within a second storage area (database 18, Fig.2), the information management system comprising:

- a plurality of devices for use by users of the information management system (see the plurality of devices of the plurality of the regions: 1-N, Fig.2 of Marchoili).
- a central directory (directory on the master server 16, Fig.2, Marchoili) having the first storage area (database 12, Fig.2) coupled to receive the first data objects and coupled to store the data objects into the first storage area wherein the

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plurality of devices have access to information stored within the central directory;

- a security system (19, Fig.2) external to the central directory, the security system having the second storage area that includes the second data objects wherein the second data objects include at least a portion of information that is also within the first data object (see col. 5, lines 31-40, Marchoili);
- a human resources system of record (26, Fig.2) external to the central directory and external to the security system wherein the human resources system of record has access to employee data within the central directory (see col. 5, lines 42-61; Fig.2 and corresponding text, Marchoili);
- an event system coupled to detect a first set of all changes made to the first data objects (see col. 5, line 62 to col. 6, line 11, Marchoili); and
- an update system coupled to receive the second set of changes and coupled to modify the second data objects in response to the second set of changes (see col. 3, lines 1-42 and col. 5, line 62 to col. 6, line 11, Marchoili).

Marchoili, however, does not explicitly disclose “a second set of changes equal to a portion of the first set of all changes”. Tso, on the other hand, discloses the synchronization of the plurality of data sets until all sets are equivalent (see col. 2, lines 56-60; col.53-65 and col. 4, lines 32-63, Tso). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Marchoili to include the step of equating the first set of data objects to the second set of data objects. The motivation of doing so would have been to provide implementing

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synchronization of data between applications with different data formats (see col. 2, lines 46-48, Tso).

Marchoili and Tso combination does not disclose the financial system of record receiving financial data. Kahn, on the other hand, discloses a centralized back-end service accesses to a central database or a system of record including financial data (see abstract; col.5, lns.18-23, Kahn). It would have been obvious to apply the financial system of Kahn into the combination system of Marchoili and Tso because it provides the flexibility and facilitate control data process (col. 6, lns. 24-31, Kahn).

Regarding claim 6, Marchoili/Tso/Kahn combination further discloses a directory server (26, Fig.2, Marchoili) coupled to receive the first data objects and coupled to provide the first data objects to the first storage area contained within the directory server; and a connection server (12, Fig.2, Marchoili) coupled to receive the first data objects from the first storage area and coupled to provide the second data objects to the second storage area within the security system.

Regarding claim 7, Marchoili/Tso/Kahn combination further discloses an event monitor coupled to receive the first set of changes made to the first data objects (see col. 4, lines 33-45, Tso); and a log application coupled to receive the first set of changes and coupled to provide the second set of changes at predetermined time intervals (see col. 3, lines 1-42 and col. 5, line 62 to col. 6, line 11, Marchoili).

Regarding claim 8, Marchoili discloses a method of operating an automatically updated information management system, comprising:

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- forming a central directory having a first database having employee information (see col. 5, lines 42-47 and elements 26, 28, Fig. 2 and corresponding text, Marchoili).
- Providing a human resources system (26, Fig.2) or record external to the central directory (see Fig.2 and corresponding text, Marchoili).
- Providing a security system external to the central directory (26, Fig.2; col. 5, lines 42-61; Fig.2 and corresponding text, Marchoili)
- editing a first data object in a first device; and
- detecting changes made to the first data object in the first device (col. 5, lines 42-61; Fig.2 and corresponding text, Marchoili).
- Synchronizing the second data object with the portion of the employee information within the security system (see col. 7, line 50 to col. 8, line 7, marchoili).

Marchoili, however, does not explicitly disclose “equating a second data object to the first data object upon detection of the changes made to the first data object”. Tso, on the other hand, discloses the synchronization of the plurality of data sets until all sets are equivalent (see col. 2, lines 56-60; col.53-65 and col. 4, lines 32-63, Tso). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Marchoili to include the step of equating the first set of data objects to the second set of data objects. The motivation of doing so would have been to provide implementing synchronization of data between applications with different data formats (see col. 2, lines 46-48, Man-Hak Tso).

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Marchoili and Tso combination does not disclose the financial information, employee information and employee asset information. Kahn, on the other hand, discloses a centralized back-end service accesses to a central database or a system of record including financial data (see abstract; col.5, lines.18-23; col. 12, lines 45-60, Kahn). It would have been obvious to apply the financial system of Kahn into the combination system of Marchoili and Tso because it provides the flexibility and facilitate control data process (col. 6, lines. 24-31, Kahn).

Regarding claim 11, Marchoili/Tso/Kahn combination further discloses executing an event services function within the first device; and logging events from the event services function (see col.5, lines 13-26, Marchoili).

Regarding claim 12, Marchoili/Tso/Kahn combination further discloses examining the logged events that affect the second data object; and updating the second data objects affected by the logged events to equate the second data objects to the first data objects (see col.5, lines36-43, Tso).

3. Claims 17-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kahn et al. (U. S. Patent no. 6,401,079) in view of Marchoili et al. (U. S. patent no. 6,233,588).

Regarding claim 17, Kahn discloses a method of using an information management system to facilitate a new hiring process, comprising:

- entering employee data associated with a new employee into a directory (see col. 40, lines 6-28, Kahn); and
- entering asset data associated with the new employee into a financial system of record (see col. 11, line 59 to col. 12, 10, Kahn). Please notes that “401(k), bank,..” data corresponds to the asset data.

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- adding the employee data and the asset data associated with the new employee to an updating function of the information management system (see Fig.6, 26 and corresponding text, Kahn).

Kahn, however, does not explicitly disclose automatically requesting employee services from within the central directory and security information stored in a second database within a security system. Marchoili, on the other hand, discloses automatic updated data information in the access control security system including the security badge for ingress and egress procedures (see col.3, lines 16-42 and col.4, lines 15-39, Marchoili). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Moreh to automatically inquire the information in the directory as taught by Marchoili.

The motivation of doing so would have been to provide enhanced flexibility controlling access throughout integrated facilities (see col.3, lines 43-53, Marchoili).

Regarding claim 18, Kahn/Marchoili combination further discloses authenticating a user at a data terminal; and performing a data edit operation within the information management system to add data objects associated with the new employee (see col. 40, lines 6-28, Kahn).

Regarding claim 19, Kahn/Marchoili combination discloses the requesting electronic service including electronic mail accounts (col. 41, lines 2-11, Kahn), and electronic schedulers (see col. 30, lines 39-41 and col. 31, lines 14-25, Kahn).

Regarding claim 20, Kahn/Marchoili combination further discloses that the automatic file transfer mechanism synchronizes employee data between a first device and a second device (see col.8, lines 1-7, Marchoili).

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Regarding claim 21, Kahn/Marchoili combination further discloses triggering an event in response to adding the employee; and initiating a data transfer from a first system to a second system in response to the event (col. 5, lines 42-61; Fig.2 and corresponding text and col. 8, lines 1-7, Marchoili).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hanh B Thai whose telephone number is 703-305-4883. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 AM - 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Safet Metjahic can be reached on 703-308-1436. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Hanh Thai
Art Unit 2171
September 30, 2004



UYEN LE
PRIMARY EXAMINER